IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti Attorney Docket No: 780-A03-021-5

Application No.: 10/755,996 Confirmation No.: 1472

Filed: January 13, 2004 Group Art Unit: 3731

For: JOINT SPACER Examiner: Mary Hoffman

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed July 7, 2006, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file for the above-identified application. Applicant submits these amendments and remarks serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability.